VLR- 11/5/68 NRHP- 6/11/69
FORM 10-300 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (Dec. 1968)
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Richmond

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM.

	STATE:
	Virginia
	COUNTY:
٠.	Lynchburg (in cit.)
-	FOR NPS USE ONLY

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The Academy of Musi	c Y	REGIG	14.7		
AND/OR HISTORIC:			` /		
The Academy of Musi	c	17	<i>)</i>		
LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER:					***********
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Lynchburg					
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7.	DESCRIPTION	·										
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SCRIBE THE BOOK APPEARANCE

The facade of the Academy is a carefully balanced three-story composition in the Beaux-Arts tradition. The rusticated ground floor is pierced by the main entrance in the center, and by two large windows on either side. The original marquee over the entrance has been replaced. On the second floor the end bays are each set in an aedicula, while the three center bays are arched. The third story windows are nearly square and are simply treated. The bays on the second and third stories are separated by two-story pilasters supporting an entablature and parapet.

As with the great European theatres of the era, the full range of classical decoration is reserved for the interior. The interior plaster work is of the finest quality and survives in excellent condition although it has stood neglected for more than a decade. The decoration, for the most part, retains its original color scheme. The painted ceiling of classical figures also survives in good condition as does the original asbestos curtain.

The general interior arrangement consists of two balconies, an orchestra and six boxes (since altered), and was carefully planned so that good accoustics and a good view of the stage were assured for every seat. The stage area was built to contain facilities to handle all types of theatrical productions.

Section 2000 Contract Contract

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SIGNIFICANCE							
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SPECIFIC DATES	i) (If Applicable	and Known)	905		-	The second second	
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Art	[X]	Landscape		Sculpture			
Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-			
Communic	ations 🗍	Literature		itarian			
Conservat	ion 📋	Military		Theater	(<u>X</u>)		
		Music	[X]	Transportation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Completed in 1905, the Academy of Music is an excellent example of the Beaux-Arts influence on American architecture. Its exterior presents a refined yet sophisticated statement in the Classical idiom, while the interior decoration is of a quality and richness on a par with the finest American theatres of the era. The significance of the Academy does not lie just in the quality of its architecture, however, for it is one of the only surviving legitimate theatres of the turn-of-the-century period in Virginia. For this reason it is an important cultural landmark not only for the city of Lynchburg but for the state of Virginia as well. During its early years the Academy, with its elegant appointments and excellent facilities, provided a setting matched in quality to the famous performers who played there. Some of the more notable European and American names to appear on its stage included Paderewski, Pavlova, Sarah Bernhardt, Alma Gluck, De Wolf Hopper, Otis Skinner, John Drew and Mrs. Patrick Campbell. It should be noted also that the architects of the theatre, E. G. Frye and Aubrey Chesterman, were well known in Virginia for the quality of their work. Chesterman is particularly remembered for having designed fine houses and churches in Lynchburg, the City Hall in Roanoke, and the wings on the state capitol in Richmond.

<u> </u>	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES												
	Lib Wiley, "Academy's History Recalled, "The Daily Advance (Lynchburg) March 19, 1967.												
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Form 10-445 (5/62)

1. STATE Virginia COUNTY Campbell

TOWN Lynchburg VICINIES STREET NO. 522-26 Main St.

VICINITY

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY

Academy of Music

ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE theatre PRESENT OWNER S. W. CHAVET PRESENT USE vacant WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick NO. OF STORIES 3

DATE OR PERIOD 1905 STYLE BORDE ATTS NEC-Classical ARCHITECT E.G. Frye & Aubrey Chesterman

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

As with the great European theatres of the era, the full range of classical decoration is reserved for the interior. The interior plaster work is of the finest quality and survives in excellent condition although it has stood neglected for more than a decade. The decoration, for the most part, retains its original color scheme. The painted ceiling of classical figures also survives in good condition as does the original asbestos curtain. The Academy is one of the only surviving legitimate theatres of the turn-of-the-century period in Virginia.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Yes

Interior

Exterior Determorated

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

9- NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Lib Wiley, "Academy's History Recalled," The Daily Advance (Lynchburg, 3/19.67).

VHLC

DATE OF RECORD 1969

